

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1740
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2012
BLOOD REQUIREMENT
Saroj Shri Tufani

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has become self-reliant to meet its blood requirement every year;
- (b) if so, the total number of blood units required in the country as per the specifications of the World Health Organisation (WHO);
- (c) the total units of blood collected State-wise through voluntary organisation during the last three years and as on date;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the hospitals situated at the district headquarters of the country have to face the shortage of blood; and
- (e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to address the said problems?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN)

(a) to (e): Blood is an integral component of health care system. The demand of blood and blood products for health care is being met through a network of 1155 blood banks supported by National AIDS Control Organisation. In case of shortage of blood, the requirement of blood is met by transportation of required blood units to district hospitals through designated Regional Blood Transfusion Centres in the States. As per the specification of World Health Organisation (WHO), the estimated requirement of blood in the country is 8.5 – 10.0 million units per annum.

A statement indicating total number of blood collected State-wise through voluntary organisations during the last three years as on date is enclosed.

The steps taken by the Government to augment voluntary blood donation in the country are as follows:

- (i) Donor recruitment and retention programme
- (ii) School education programme for awareness among the youth.
- (iii) District wise training programme on VBD
- (iv) Sensitization workshops
- (v) Celebrations of World blood donors day, National Voluntary blood donation day and youth Day